

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION**

IN RE:)	
)	
COLETTE E. KNIGHTEN,)	
)	
Debtor)	
)	
<hr style="width: 45%; margin-left: 0;"/>)	
COLETTE E. KNIGHTEN,)	
)	
Appellant,)	
)	
vs.)	Case No. 4:23CV1178 HEA
)	
CITIFINANCIAL MORTGAGE COMPANY,)	
INC., et al.,)	
)	
Appellees.)	

OPINION, MEMORANDUM AND ORDER

This matter is before the Court on Appellees, Growth Developments LLC and CitiMortgage, Inc.’s Motions to Dismiss, [Doc. No.’s 3 and 4, respectively]. Appellant has failed to respond to the Motions. For the reasons set forth below, the Motions are granted and this appeal will be dismissed.

Appellant filed this appeal from Orders granting Motion to Dismiss with Prejudice of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. The Orders were entered on November 1, 2022. This Appeal was filed

on August 24, 2023.

Fed.R.Bankr.P. 8002 mandates filing a notice of appeal “within 14 days after entry of the judgment, order, or decree being appealed.” A timely notice of appeal of a bankruptcy court order is “mandatory.” *In re Veroblue Farms USA, Inc.*, 6 F.4th 880, 887 (8th Cir. 2021). An untimely appeal therefore requires dismissal.

Appellant filed the Appeal more than nine months after entry of the Dismissal Order. As Defendant CitiMortgage correctly argues “pro se litigants are not excused from compliance with relevant rules of the procedural and substantive law.” *Schooley v. Kennedy*, 712 F.2d 372, 373 (8th Cir. 1983).

It is undisputed that Appellant missed the mandatory 14-day time limit to file the Appeal and must be dismissed.

Accordingly

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this appeal is dismissed.

An appropriate Order of Dismissal is entered this same date.

Dated this 16th day of July 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry Edward Autrey", is written over a horizontal line.

HENRY EDWARD AUTREY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE